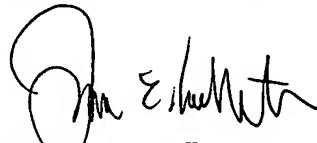


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claim 5 in order to avoid the multiple dependent claim surcharge. New claims 14 and 15 are added to recapture the subject matter in the amended claim.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: May 19, 2005

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L9289.05133

STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.
Suite 850
1615 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 785-0100
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200